2.—WORKING PLANS.

24. No plans based on sustained yield could be made, owing partly to the want of good maps of the Khánápur-forests and partly to the weakness of the organization-staff, which consists of only one gazetted officer and a clerk. I hope to obtain sanction for the employment of another Assistant-Conservator with suitable establishment during the approaching season; both could be made available without causing additional expense.

25. During 1886-87, Mr. Andrewes, the officer specially employed for organization, investigated the yield and increment of the forests in the Khánápur Táluka of Belgaum, with a view to ascertaining the sustained yield of the forests adjacent to the railway; and a plan for working those which supply fuel to the railway will, it is hoped, be completed during the current year.

26. The survey of all important areas in Khánápur was completed last year, and the forests next to be taken in hand are the valuable timber-forests of Haliyál in Kánara.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT.

1.—BREACHES OF THE LAW.

27. The magisterial cases during the year were as follows:—

Collectorates.	1885-86.			1886-87.			Percentage of Failure.	
	Cases in which conviction was obtained.	Cases in which conviction failed.	Total Number of Cases.	Cases in which conviction was obtained.	Cases in which conviction failed.	Total Number of Cases.	1885-86.	1886-87.
Kánara	7	4	11	12	5	17	36	29
Belgaum	1	2	3	8	4	12	66	33
Dhárwár	6	3	9	5	6	11	33	54
Kolába	26	18	44	61	17	78	40	21
Bijápur	29	5	34	10	3	13	14	23
Ratnágiri	16	4	20	19	2	21	20	9
Total ...	85	36	121	115	37	152	29	24

28. The total number of cases in 1886-87 was 152, against 121 in the previous year—an increase of 31. The percentage of failures was 29 and 24 respectively.

29. The increase in the number of prosecutions occurs chiefly in the Kolába-Division, where there were 78 in 1886-87 and 44 in the previous year. The increase is owing to prosecutions for illicit cultivation on dháli-lands. The percentage of failures was 21 in 1886-87 and 40 in 1885-86.

30. The cases in Belgaum also show an increase of 9. There, a kulkarni of Parasgad was convicted of levying grazing-fees without entering them in the accounts, and was punished with one and a half year's imprisonment.

31. The following statement gives the cases compounded by forest officers: —

Collectorates.	1885-86.			1886-87.		
	Number of Cases commuted.	Amount of Fines recovered.		Number of Cases commuted.	Amount of Fines recovered.	
		Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.
Kánara	44	74	10 8	46	344	9 4
Belgaum	20	60	7 0	35	199	12 6
Dhárwár	18	23	0 7	47	126	3 1
Bijápur	121	246	10 1	138	303	0 0
Kolába	180	1,051	10 1	130	1,299	4 1
Ratnágiri	55	44	12 5	42	63	8 9
Total ...	438	1,501	2 10	438	2,336	5 9

32. A statement showing the number of cases compromised under the Forest Act, as well as taken into Court, is given below, as directed in Government Resolution No. 3527 of the 2nd May 1884: —

Districts.	Taken into Court.		Compromised under Section 67.		Total Number of Cases.	
	1885-86.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1886-87.
Kánara	11	17	44	46	55	63
Belgaum	3	12	20	35	23	47
Dhárwár	9	11	18	47	27	58
Kolába	44	78	180	130	224	208
Bijápur	34	13	121	138	155	151
Ratnágiri	20	21	55	42	75	63
Total ...	121	152	438	438	559	590

2.—FIRES.

33. The prevalence of forest-fires this year was much the same as usual. The following table shows the areas *which appear from the reports* to have been burnt, and the percentage of protection afforded:—

Collectorates.	Forest Area.		Protected.		Burnt.		Percentage of Protection.
	Square Miles.	Acres.	Square Miles.	Acres.	Square Miles.	Acres.	
Kánara	3,548	437	2,870	367	678	70	81
Belgaum	689	305	650	535	38	410	94
Dhárwár	432	46	264	202	167	484	66
Kolába	388	452	385	293	3	159	99
Bijápur	155	479	150	461	5	18	98
Ratnágiri	20	13	9	43	...	99	46
Total ...	5,234	452	4,330	624	892	600	83·03

34. In Kánara, where the forests are continuous and unbroken by rides, it is extremely difficult to keep out fires, or to detect incendiaries. In the Northern half of that district the clearing of lines will be commenced in November; and it is hoped that, with their assistance, special areas may, in a year or two, be continuously protected from fire. At present, fires do incalculable mischief by almost putting a complete stop to the natural reproduction by seed of superior species, besides burning and injuring timber, both standing and felled.

3.—NATURAL REGENERATION.

35. For the above reason natural regeneration by seed is very bad, but coppice shoots are generally able to survive the fires.

4.—ARTIFICIAL REGENERATION.

Ka'nara.

36. Nothing was done in the way of planting in regular plantations of the Northern Division of Kánara. Out of the 14,000 casuarina seedlings raised in the previous year for planting on the coast of Kárwár, 12,000 are in a healthy condition, but 2,000 were destroyed by insects. In the Kásarkôd casuarina plantation of the Southern Division of Kánara 2,485 seedlings were planted out from nurseries. Of these 2,210 were killed by insects, besides 1,914 of those put out in the previous year. A nursery of 82,817 seedlings was prepared for transplanting during 1887-88.

37. The experiment in connection with the combining of kumri and the planting of useful plants was not successful.

38. In the Yellápur Sub-division of the Central Division of Kánara out of the 123 acres allotted for kumri cultivation 25 acres and 36 gunthás were planted with 9,000 divi-divi and 60 hirda plants. Of these only 43 divi-divi and 3 hirda plants are reported to have survived. In the Northern Division of Kánara no fresh planting was done, but of the 10,204 divi-divi and 56,149 hirda seedlings reported to be alive at the end of the previous year, 7,293 of the former and 271 of the latter have died.

Belgaum.

39. No fresh planting was done here. It is reported that the plants on the kumri lands are disappearing.

Dha'rwa'r.

40. Of the 2,000 divi-divi and 140 Manilla tamarind, which germinated at the Dévikok plantation, 1,000 of the former and 60 of the latter were planted out.

Bija'pur.

41. A new plantation of bábúl was made at Jaknúr on the Malaprabha. About 9 acres were ploughed up, and seeds sown broadcast. At the close of the year, seedlings of an average height of one foot covered the area. At Mamdápur about 20 acres were treated in the same manner, but the result was not satisfactory.

42. In the Anantápur plantation 4,340 nim, 100 bámbus, 30 sandal, 4 jámbul, and 30 mashwál seedlings were put out from nurseries, and a nursery of 5,000 nim and 162 mashwál seedlings was formed. In the Mamdápur plantation 2,000 bámbus, 2,000 nim, 100 sandal, and 100 sirsál seedlings were planted, and a nursery of various kinds of seedlings was made.

Kola'ba.

43. No planting was done on an extensive scale. Some casuarina seedlings were put out at the Sattad-Nágáon plantation, and these have done fairly well. A nursery of 2,879 seedlings was also formed.

Ratna'giri.

44. In the forest-reserves of Dápoli and Málvan 3,637 casuarina and 100 teak-plants were planted out from nurseries, and a nursery of 20,507 casuarina and other kinds of seedling was prepared. About 10½ khandis of seed were sown broad-cast in the several sub-divisions.

5.—EXPERIMENTS WITH EXOTIC TREES.

45. In the Yellápur Sub-division an experiment with mahogany-seeds was tried, but failed. The failure must have been owing to the badness of the seed, as trees from previous experiments are now to be seen from 6 to 9 feet high.

46. The Pithecolobium Saman trees, planted some years ago, are thriving well almost everywhere. They seeded in Yellápur for the first time; the pods were collected and given to cattle, which readily ate them. It is reported that if the pods were produced in sufficient quantity, they would form a valuable substitute for gram for cattle.

47. Experiments were made with divi-divi at the Mamdápur and Anantápur plantations of the Bijápur Division. The plants surviving number only 1,800, a great number having been killed by insects.

6.—THINNINGS.

48. Thinnings were made in the Kárwár casuarina-plantation. 7,884 trees were selected and cut, and fetched Rs. 1,881-10-7.

49. In the Singatgéri plantation in Kánara, a thinning was made, and the 854 trees that were removed realized Rs. 328.

7.—COMMUNICATIONS AND BUILDINGS.

50. A sum of Rs. 6,552-6-2 was expended under this head.

(*a*) Roads and Bridges.

Rs. 1,394-8-0.

51. In the three divisions of Kánara the following forest-roads were put into repair through the agency of the Revenue-Department:—

(1) Road between Bhágwati and Potōli.

(2) Road between Hittalkárgade and Mágôd.

(3) Road between Kátur and Umachigi.

52. In the Yellápur Sub-division the road from Udamaki to the Saw-Mills was repaired by the Forest Department, as well as the *band*-road in the Dápoli Sub-division of Ratnágiri.

53. The construction of a road between Hemádge and Londe—10 miles long—in the Belgaum Division was commenced by the Forest Department. This will afford a line for the transport of forest-produce to the railway.

(*b*) Buildings

and

(*c*) Other Works.

Rs. 5,157-14-2.

54. Two forest watch-houses in the Northern Division of Kánara and 3 in the Central Division were built at a cost of Rs. 300 each, and, in the Southern Division of Kánara, a rest-house and 2 guard-houses built for Rs. 900. A depôt-house was commenced on the bandar at Honávar, but, owing to objections raised by the Customs' authorities, the work was interrupted.

55. In the Belgaum-Division, a forest rest-house was completed and 2 guard-houses. Three watch-houses were also built in Dhárwár.

56. Repairs to various cart-tracks in forests and to buildings were made as usual.